

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	:	CRIMINAL NO. _____
v.	:	DATE FILED: _____
BLAKE R. STEIDLER	:	VIOLATIONS:
	:	18 U.S.C. § 2332a(a)(2) (use of weapon of
	:	mass destruction - 1 count)
	:	26 U.S.C. §§ 5822, 5861(f), 5871 (unlawful
	:	making of explosive - 1 count)
	:	18 U.S.C. § 844(d) (interstate
	:	transportation of explosive - 1 count)
	:	18 U.S.C. § 1716(a) and (j)(2) (unlawful
	:	mailing of explosive - 1 count)
		Notice of forfeiture

INDICTMENT

COUNT ONE

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES THAT:

At all times material to this indictment:

1. Defendant BLAKE R. STEIDLER underwent cosmetic surgery at a clinic in Chicago, Illinois, after which defendant STEIDLER expressed dissatisfaction with the surgical results.

2. As an act of revenge against his surgeon, defendant BLAKE R. STEIDLER built a destructive device in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, using items including black gunpowder, a carbon dioxide cartridge, a 9-volt battery, a model rocket engine igniter, and dental floss. Defendant STEIDLER placed the destructive device inside a jewelry box, and he placed the jewelry box inside a mailing envelope addressed to the surgeon's clinic in Chicago, Illinois.

3. Defendant BLAKE R. STEIDLER also placed inside the envelope a typewritten note, which stated in relevant part, “I’ve just returned from a missions trip from Brazil. I’d like you to have this souvenir I picked up on my missionary trip as a token of my appreciation. Thank you so much and God bless! Pastor Edwards.”

4. Defendant BLAKE R. STEIDLER placed postage on the envelope and labeled the envelope with a return address of a United Methodist Church in Warren, Ohio.

5. Defendant BLAKE R. STEIDLER transported the envelope containing the destructive device from his home state of Pennsylvania across state lines into Ohio.

6. Defendant BLAKE R. STEIDLER placed the envelope containing the destructive device into a postal drop box in North Bloomfield, Ohio.

7. On or about February 11, 2005, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, defendant

BLAKE R. STEIDLER,

without lawful authority, used, threatened, and attempted to use a weapon of mass destruction against a person within the United States, the results of which affected and would have affected interstate and foreign commerce.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2332a(a)(2).

COUNT TWO

THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about February 10, 2005, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania,

defendant

BLAKE R. STEIDLER

knowingly and unlawfully made a destructive device comprised of black gunpowder, a carbon dioxide cartridge, a 9-volt battery, a model rocket engine igniter, and dental floss.

In violation of Title 26, United States Code, Sections 5822, 5861(f), and 5871.

COUNT THREE

THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about February 11, 2005, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, defendant

BLAKE R. STEIDLER

transported in interstate commerce an explosive, that is, a destructive device comprised of black gunpowder, a carbon dioxide cartridge, a 9-volt battery, a model rocket engine igniter, and dental floss, with the knowledge and intent that said explosive would be used to kill, injure and intimidate an individual.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 844(d).

COUNT FOUR

THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 6 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about February 11, 2005, in the Northern District of Ohio, defendant

BLAKE R. STEIDLER

knowingly deposited for mailing and delivery, in a postal drop box in North Bloomfield, Ohio, a nonmailable explosive item, that is, an envelope containing a destructive device comprised of black gunpowder, a carbon dioxide cartridge, a 9-volt battery, a model rocket engine igniter, and dental floss, with intent to kill and injure another.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1716(a) and (j)(2).

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:

1. As a result of the violations of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2332a(a)(2) and 1716(j)(2), as set forth in this indictment, defendant

BLAKE R. STEIDLER

shall forfeit to the United States of America all firearms and ammunition involved in the commission of such offenses, including, but not limited to:

- a. The destructive device comprised of black gunpowder, a carbon dioxide cartridge, a 9-volt battery, a model rocket engine igniter, and dental floss, which was transported to Ohio and placed in a postal drop box on or about February 11, 2005; and
- b. All forfeitable materials used to make such destructive device.

All pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461, and Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(d).

2. As a result of the violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 844(d), as set forth in this indictment, defendant

BLAKE R. STEIDLER

shall forfeit to the United States of America all explosive materials involved or used or intended to be used in such violation, including but not limited to:

- a. The destructive device comprised of black gunpowder, a carbon dioxide cartridge, a 9-volt battery, a model rocket engine igniter, and dental floss, which was transported to Ohio and placed in a postal drop box on or about February 11, 2005; and
- b. All forfeitable materials used to make such destructive device.

All pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461, and Title 18, United States Code, Section 844(c).

3. As a result of the violation of Title 26, United States Code, Sections 5822, 5861(f), 5871, as set forth in this indictment, defendant

BLAKE R. STEIDLER

shall forfeit to the United States of America all firearms involved in such violation, including but not limited to:

- a. The destructive device comprised of black gunpowder, a carbon dioxide cartridge, a 9-volt battery, a model rocket engine igniter, and dental floss, which was transported to Ohio and placed in a postal drop box on or about February 11, 2005; and
- b. All forfeitable materials used to make such destructive device.

All pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461, and Title 26, United States Code, Section 5872.

A TRUE BILL:

GRAND JURY FOREPERSON

**PATRICK L. MEEHAN
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**